Amendments to the Hindu Succession Act

1095. SHRI RUDRA NARAYAN PANY:
SHRI BALAVANT *ALIAS* BAL APTE:

Will the Minister of LAW AND JUSTICE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Karnataka Government has amended the Hindu Succession Act 1990 in order to make the daughters coparceners of the Joint Family alongwith son;

(b) the impact of the above Amendment on the Status of women in the State;

(c) whether the National Commission for women has carried out a study on implementation of the Hindu Succession Act, 1994 (Amendment) in Karnataka through the National Law School of India University; and

(d) if so, the findings and recommendations thereof?

THE MINISTER OF LAW AND JUSTICE (SHRI H.R. BHARDWAJ): (a) The Hindu Succession (Karnataka Amendment) Act, 1994 allows daughters of Hindu Undivided family to enjoy equal right to property as sons enjoy.

(b) to (d) The National Commission for Women has commissioned a study through the National Law School of India, University, Bangalore to find out how far the amendment made in the Hindu Succession Act, 1956 in the State of Karnataka have benefited women in the State. The study found that providing education to women is of critical importance as otherwise they would not be able to fight for their rights. The study also found the need for a support system to help women for protecting their property and to make best use of the property.

Fast Track Courts

†1096. SHRI RAM JETHMALANI:
SHRI RAVI SHANKAR PRASAD:

Will the Minister of LAW AND JUSTICE be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that the 11th Finance Commission have recommended to set up 2855 fast track courts;

(b) if not, the correct number thereof;

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†Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.

(c) the number of fast track courts set up so far; alongwith the number of the courts operating at the moment; and

(d) by when the remaining courts would be set up?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF LAW AND JUSTICE (SHRI K. VENKATAPATHY): (a) No, Sir.

(b) The 11th Finance Commission have recommended to set up 1734 fast track courts in the country;

(c) So far, 1690 fast track courts have been set up out of which 1509 courts are functional.

(d) It is the combined responsibility of the State Governments and the concerned High Courts to set up fast track courts. Supreme Court in its judgement dated 6th May, 2004 in the case of Brij Mohan Lal *Vs.* Union of India & Others have directed the State Government and the High Courts to establish all the fast track courts within three months from the date of its judgement and its is monitoring the position from time to time *vide* this case through hearings.

Disposal of cases by Fast Track Courts

†1097. SHRI RAJ MOHINDER SINGH MAJITHA:
DR. MURLI MANOHAR JOSHI:

Will the Minister of LAW AND JUSTICE be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that the number of cases disposed off by the Fast Track Courts has been below the expectation during the last three years;

(b) if so, the fact in this regard; and

(c) the average number of cases disposed off annually by these courts and to what extent these are below the expectations?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF LAW AND JUSTICE (SHRI K. VENKATAPATHY): (a) and (b) The Eleventh Finance Commission has recommended the scheme of fast track courts with a guideline to dispose off 14 sessions trial cases in a month. As per information available with the Department as on 30th November, 2004, the national average disposal of case by fast track courts is 14.92 cases..

†Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.